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Nonprofit seeks community volunteers

By Yazmin Alvarez
Staff Writer

For more than 40 years, a San Bernardino County agency has provided programs and services to help better the lives of low-income residents, and now the agency is looking for some help.

"We really need the public's impact to come into play here," said Al Twine, board chairman of the Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County. "We need volunteers to help give us input on what's needed in the communities."

After years of serving as a public agency through the county's Community Services Department, the partnership, which recently established itself as a nonprofit organization,

Want to join?

■ **What:** Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County advisory committee

■ **Where:** Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County, 686 E. Mill St., San Bernardino

■ **Information:** (909) 891-3955

needs volunteers for its newly formed advisory committee.

The seven- to 15-member committee will serve as a liaison for the partnership's board of directors, serving as the voice of the county's neighboring communities.

"The people in the community are the ones who are in touch with the community itself," said Rowena Concep-

cion, assistant to the director of the partnership. "These are the volunteers that we're looking for. These are the ones who will be able to let us know what is needed to help better serve our clients."

The organization relies on volunteers and a variety of government and private funding sources to offer programs and services like emergency assistance with food and motels and gas vouchers to low-income residents, the partnership's major clientele.

"Our goal is to help end poverty," Concepcion said. "There are several other programs we have to offer, but without the help of volunteers to serve on our committee, we won't be able to get the public the help

that they need."

Concepcion said she hopes to fill the volunteer spots by the end of the year so the organization can move forward with other planned programs.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the advisory committee needs to submit a letter of intent to the partnership explaining why they feel they could help the board.

"All we need is for community members to tell us a little about themselves, so we know where they can help serve our board," Twine said. "These volunteers will not only help benefit the organization, but the community as well."

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